

HIROKI
ENDO 遠藤浩輝



07
EDEN



TRANSLATION / KUMAR SIVASUBRAMANIAN

LETTERING / STEVE DUTRO



EDEN

HIROKI
ENDO 遠藤浩輝

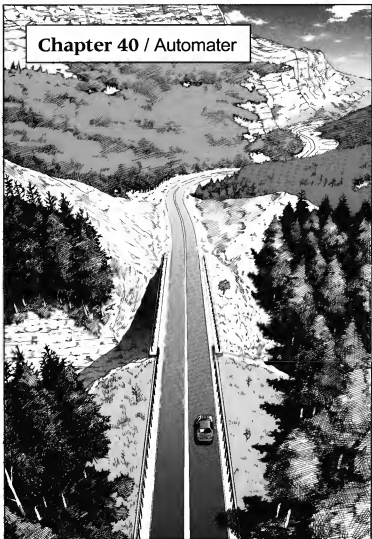
It's an Endless World!

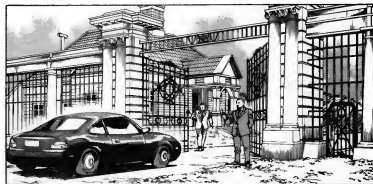


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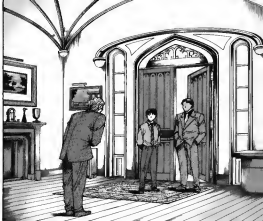
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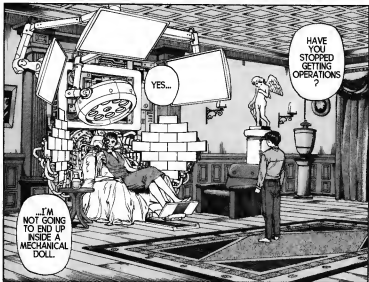
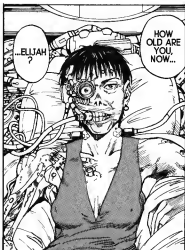


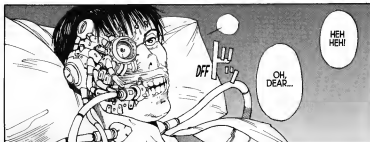
BTAM



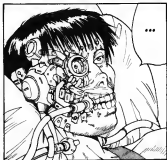
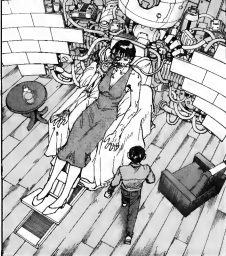
...ELIJAH.

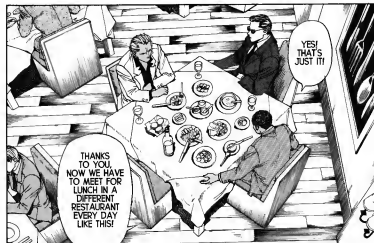
SO YOU
CAME...

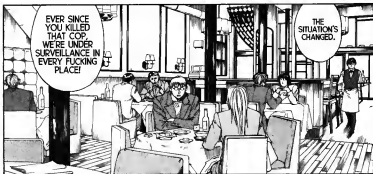








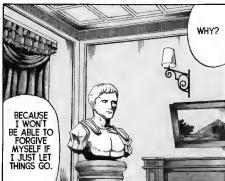


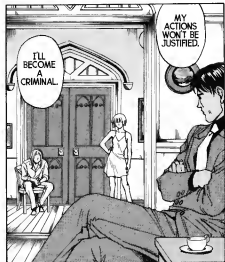














...COULDN'T
BEAR
CHILDREN.

I WAS
TWENTY-TWO
YEARS OLD
WHEN I
REALIZED
MY BODY...



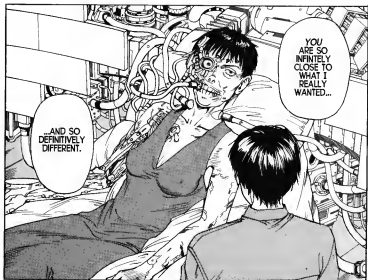
...BECAUSE
THE
SUBSTITUTE
IS NOT
WHAT
YOU
REALLY
WANTED.

BUT
THAT
THING
CAN'T
BE RE-
PLACED...

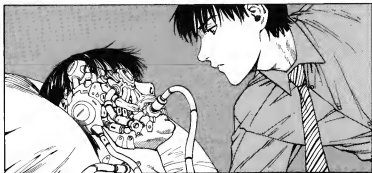


WHEN
ONE
POTENTIALITY
IS
ROBBED
FROM
THEM...

...PEOPLE
TRY TO
COMPENSATE
FOR IT WITH
SOMETHING
ELSE.



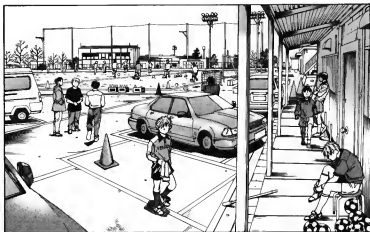






Chapter 41 / Red Sweet Pea (Beginning)



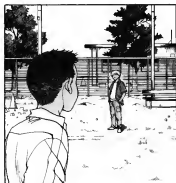




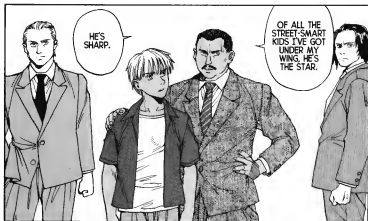




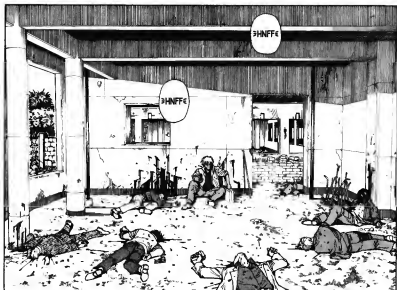






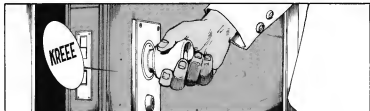












































Chapter 42 / Red Sweet Pea (Middle)





POT. MARIJUANA, LIKE MOST DRUGS AROUND THE WORLD, CONTINUED TO BE CULTIVATED AND DISTRIBUTED, EVEN AFTER THE CLOSURE VIRUS DESTROYED A LARGE PORTION OF HUMANITY.





GABACHO: A WHITE PERSON.





WE'RE
NOT
FUCKING
AROUND.
YOU LITTLE
SHIT!





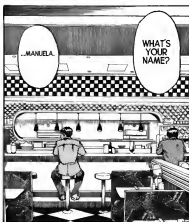


HOW
OLD
ARE
YOU?



...SIXTEEN.

SLURP



...MANUELA.

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?



YOU'RE
NO OLD
MAN
YOURSELF!

YOU'RE
A KID! YOU
OUGHTA
ACT LIKE
IT!



...

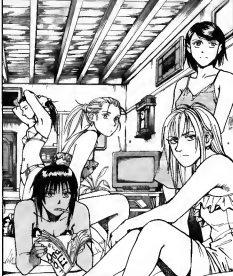
YOU
HAVE A
PLACE TO
SLEEP
TONIGHT?





THEY'RE
ALL
PROS.

PEDRO
RUNS THIS
PLACE, SO
YOU CAN
RELAX.



WILL IT
BE...OKAY
FOR ME
TO KEEP
A KID
HERE?

...SO JUST
WATCH AND
LEARN FOR
A WHILE.

YOU
WON'T BE
ABLE TO TAKE
CUSTOMERS
STRAIGHT
AWAY WITH
THAT
BELLY...



IT'S NOT
THAT
UNUSUAL.

WELL,
IT'S TOO
LATE
FOR AN
ABORTION,
ISN'T IT?



















STUCK UNDER THE TOP BOARD OF THE DRAWERS OF HER DRESSING TABLE...



MANUELA'S ROOM.



NEEDLES?

I THINK SHE MUST STILL BE SNORTING IT LIKE COCAINE.



...BUT HEROIN'S ANOTHER STORY.

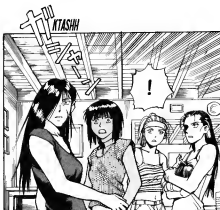


PEDRO...

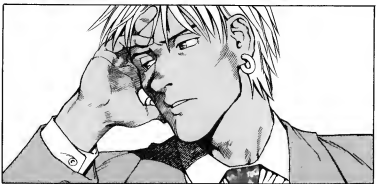
...

























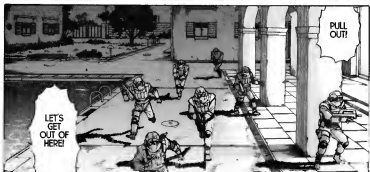
Chapter 43 / Red Sweet Pea (End)



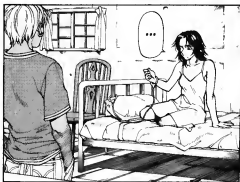














DO
YOU ENJOY
HAVING
YOUR LIFE
REVOLVE
AROUND
SMACK?



I
DON'T
WANT TO
GET OFF
THE
DRUGS!



I DON'T
NEED TO
HEAR THIS
FROM A
PIMP!

SAY
WHAT
YOU
WANT.



DO YOU
ENJOY
SELLING
YOUR BODY
SO YOU
CAN GET
HIGH?

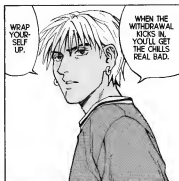


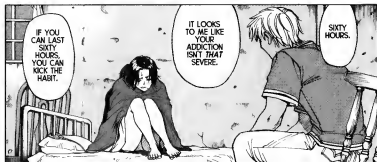
DID YOU
ENJOY
SELLING
YOUR
BABY FOR
DOPE?



NOW
TAKE THIS
OFF OF
ME! I HAVE
TO GO TO
THE TOILET.
DON'T I?

WHY DO
YOU GIVE
A SHIT
ABOUT
ME?!







IT'S TWO
HOURS
TO
THE CITY
BY CAR.

AND
YOU
CAN'T
RUN
AWAY.



THERE
ISN'T
ANY
HERE.

GET ME
SOME
MEDICINE,
ANYTHING!
PLEASE...



WHY
ARE YOU
DOING
THIS TO
ME?!

GODDAMN
IT! YOU...
PIECE OF
SHIT!



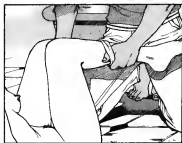










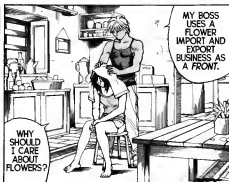


















GO
FOR IT.

CAN
I?



WANNA
MAKE A
WREATH?

THEY'RE
PRETTY!





...SHE
DISAPPEARED
AGAIN.

SHORTLY
AFTER
THAT...



...SHE
CAME TO
PEDRO
A THIRD
TIME.

THEN
EIGHT
MONTHS
LATER...



BUT
PEDRO
STILL
TOOK HER
BACK.

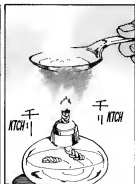
NOT EVEN
ANGRY.
LIKE
NOTHING
HAPPENED.



BACK
ON THE
DRUGS...

...AND
AGAIN...
CARRYING
THE CHILD
OF AN
UNKNOWN
FATHER.













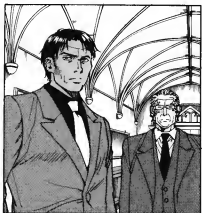


IT WAS
LIKE...

...THEIR
FIRST LOVE
FOR BOTH
OF THEM.
ETERNALLY.

Chapter 44 / Bats, a Mother, Bait













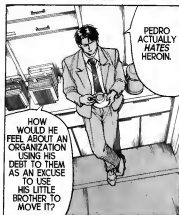




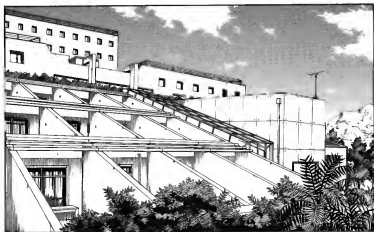


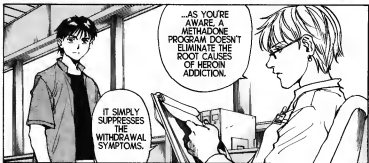














WILL SHE
START USING
AGAIN ONCE
SHE LEAVES
HERE?

...IT'S
POSSIBLE.



IN
COUNSELING
AND GROUP
THERAPY SHE
DOESN'T
TAKE ANY
INITIATIVE TO
SPEAK...

...AND SHE
DOESN'T
APPEAR TO
HAVE ANY
STRONG DESIRE
TO STOP
USING HEROIN.



WHAT
IF SHE
STOPPED
PROSTITUTING...?

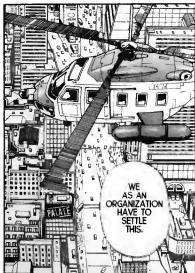
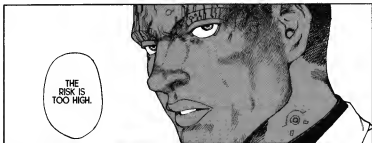
BUT IF
SHE HAS NO
OTHER SKILLS
TO SUPPORT
HERSELF
WITH...



...THAT'S
MAKING
HER
FEEL THE
NEED TO
USE.

IT'S
NECESSARY
TO REMOVE
WHATEVER
IT IS IN HER
LIFE...

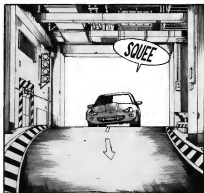






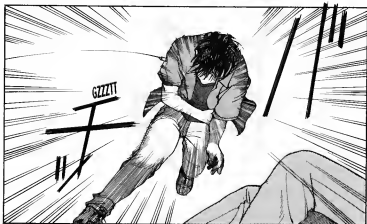


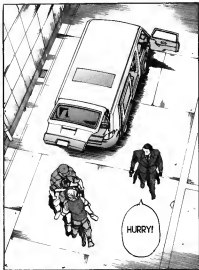
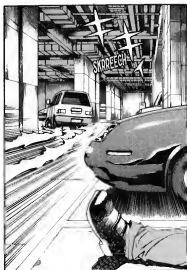


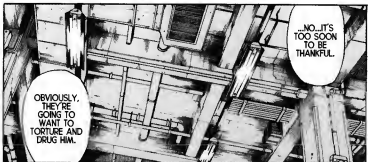
















Chapter 45 / Acceleration

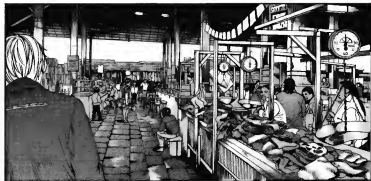




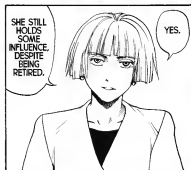




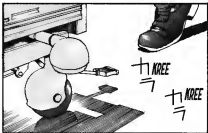




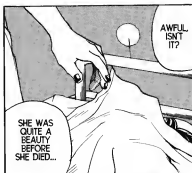


















WAS
THAT
YOUR
DAUGHTER
?

NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION IT,
A LITTLE GIRL
DID VISIT YOU
RECENTLY.



YES.

...



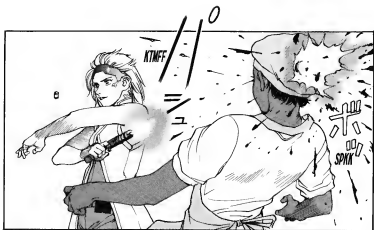
I SEE KIDS IN
THEIR TEENS
COME THROUGH
HERE, AND IT
WORRIES ME
SOMETIMES.

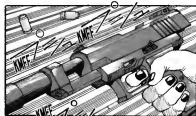
I WONDER
IF MY OWN
SON'S ON
DRUGS NOW,
TOO...

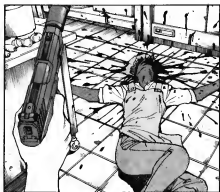


SHE'S
LOVELY.
MY SON
WILL BE
FOURTEEN
SOON.













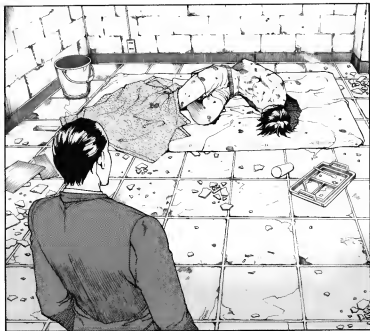


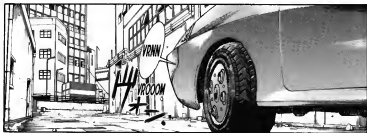
MINISTRY SPY: IN EDEN VOLUME SIX, ELLIAN UNCOVERED THE FACT THAT THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR HAD A SPY IN PEDRO'S ORGANIZATION.



















Chapter 46 / When Being Good Stops Working











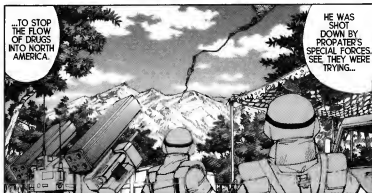
HE
TRANSPORTED
COCAINE
FROM MEXICO
INTO NORTH
AMERICA.

...



THAT'S
MY FATHER.

HE
WAS A
PILOT.



...TO STOP
THE FLOW
OF DRUGS
INTO NORTH
AMERICA.

HE WAS
SHOT
DOWN BY
PROPATER'S
SPECIAL FORCES.
SEE, THEY WERE
TRYING...



THEY'RE
HERE.

...



WELL, DRUG
CARTELS
DON'T
OFFER ANY
WORKMAN'S
COMP...

...AND
AFTER
FOUR DAYS
IN AGONY,
HE DIED
FROM
MAJOR
BURNS.

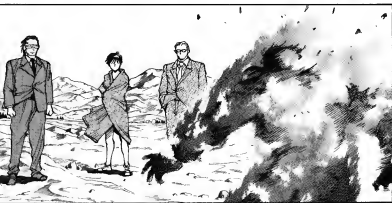








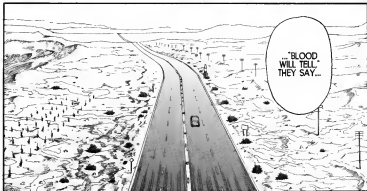


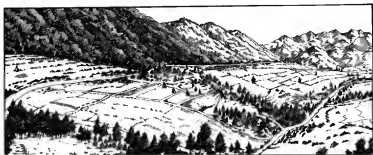




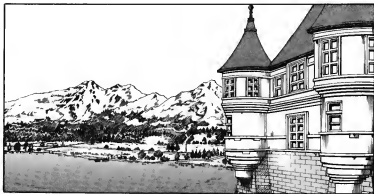




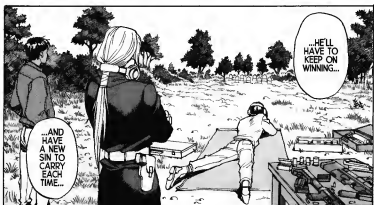




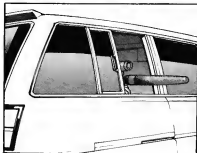
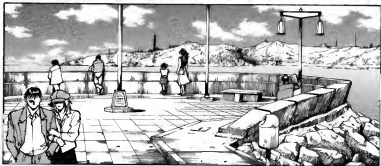


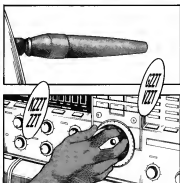
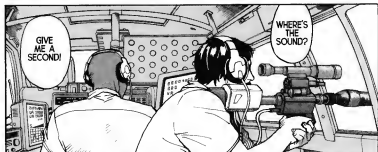


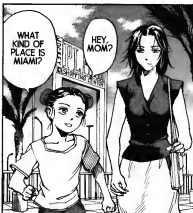
EENY: THE AUTOMATER'S NICKNAME FOR HER SUBORDINATE, MEL LYNN



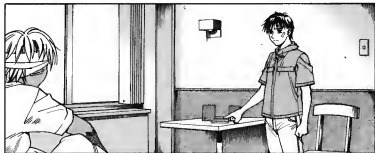
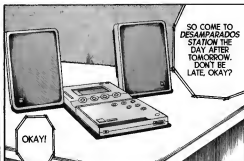
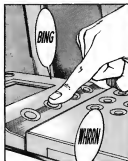




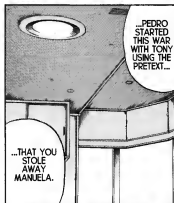


















I GUESS SO.







publisher

MIKE RICHARDSON

editor

PHILIP SIMON

digital production

RYAN HILL

collection designer

DAVID NESTELLE

art director

LIA RIBACCHI

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AFTERWORD

Let's think about crying this time around. There are plenty of forms of crying—"bawling," "sobbing," "menly tears," "crocodile tears," "crying oneself to sleep," et cetera, et cetera—but in every case it makes the viewer uncomfortable. Indeed, you immediately want to ask, "What's wrong?"

"Why are you crying?" "Because I fell down . . . because this curry's hot . . . because I've got a lousy mahjong hand . . . because someone's hairy hand is pinching me . . . because of the cat." Only, as we become adults, we can't just cry all the time anymore. Even when you're sad, you're supposed to hold back the tears. We have to transfer that crying into something else, like a guitar. Those "tearful phrases," you know? Maybe all the mothers of the world transfer their crying into the sounds their cutting boards make as they slice radishes. Even fathers cry . . . with their backs. Your father's back in the middle of the night with the fridge door half open, eating a ham sandwich. Seriously capable of crying. Bartenders make "weeping cocktails," and when customers drink them they say, "Ah! It's the flavor of tears!" Eccentric girls pelted by the rain say, "The sky is crying . . . in my place!" . . . I guess. Anyway, grown-ups don't cry! "Find a substitute!" they say. So accordingly, me being a manga artist, I have to transfer my "crying" into my works. Where a guitarist "chokes" his strings, I could go wild with the nib of my pen. Where a guitarist adds "vibrato," I could let my lines go shaky. I'd be trying to express a kind of "bluesy-ness," but my woeful readers would just say, "This guy's art has kinda gone to hell lately." So then I could try surreptitiously dripping real tears onto the original art, but I'd get, "Hey,

you smudged the ink here! Fix it with some liquid paper," from my editor. It wouldn't work. So I could try to express it through my characters. I could start by drawing a girl with her eyebrows sloping toward each other. Oh! That's bluesy! Next, I draw her shoulders trembling. Oh! Aren't those Clapton's eyes? Now, I put some tears welling up in her eyes, and—hey! Why's she taking off her clothes?! I give her a word balloon that says, "Ooh, baby! ♥ Give me more!" . . . and basically end up with a naughty doodle.

—**Hiroki Endo** March 28, 2002

(Translation by Kumar Sivasubramanian)

"Hiroki Endo's *Eden* is a demonstration of what science fiction can offer when thoughtfully engaging the world rather than just offering tired parables."

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